**विधि, न्याय और कंपनी कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हंसराज भारद्वाज)** : (क) से (ङ) लोक हित में मुकदमा लड़ना विधिक सहायता स्कीम कार्यान्वित करने वाली समिति के विधिक सहायता क्रियाकलापों में से एक है। उच्चतम न्यायालय की रजिस्ट्री में एक पृथक लोकहित मुकदमा प्रकोष्ठ भी कार्य कर रहा है। लोकहित मुकदमे न्यायालयों द्वारा किसी पक्षकार द्वारा आवेदन किए जाने पर या कुल मिलाकर जनसाधारण के लिए उसके महत्व पर निर्भर करते हुए स्वप्रेरणा से ग्रहण किए जाते हैं। यद्यपि ऐसी कोई परिनिश्चित नीति नहीं है, फिर भी, जब भी आवश्यक होता है, स्वैच्छिक संगठनों और सेवानिवृत्त न्यायिक कार्मिकों, आदि की सहायता ली जाती है।

**Backing of litigations in Courts**

1445. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that backlog of litigations in the Supreme Court of India, High Courts as well as in the District Courts have been swelling consistantly wherein disposal of cases have been perennial much less than the registration of new cases;

(b) whether it is a fact that such state of affair has been attribuable *inter alia* to inordinate delays in appointment of Judges to fill up the vacancies in the Courts;

(c) the details of vacancies of Judges in the Apex Court and in the High Courts as on 31st October, 1994;

(d) the steps contemplated by Government to timely fill up vacancies and any other measures that would result in speedier disposal of justice;

(e) whether any study has been conducted to analyse and ascertain as to how much average time was taken for disposal of a civil suit in the High Courts and in the Supreme Court in the recent years and how much time it used to take during Sixties; and

(f) if so, when such study was conducted last and the findings thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) and (b) Some of the factors which contribute to accumulation of arrears of cases in the courts, identified by the Malimath Committee, are population explosion, litigation explosion, inadequacy of judge strength, delays in filling up vacancies, lack of infrastructural facilities, long arguments and prolix judgments, lawyers strike and indiscriminate resort to Write jurisdiction etc.

(c) As on 1.11.1994, there were 90 vacancies of permanent/Additional Judges in High Courts against the sanctioned strength of 525 Judges. In Supreme Court there were 4 vacancies of Judges against the sanctioned strength of 26 Judges.

(d) The Government is making all possible efforts to ensure that vacancies of Judges in the Supreme Court and the High Courts are filled in as expeditiously as possible. In order to consider the problem of arrears of cases in Courts and find out ways and means to deal with it as expeditiously as possible, a meeting of the Chief Ministers and Chief Justices was held on 4th December 1993 under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister. The Conference recommended several steps in a resolution it adopted for speedy disposal of cases in Courts/Tribunals, which have been accepted by the Government and commended to all the State Governments/UT Administrations and High Courts/Tribunals for necessary action. Three Working Groups of Law Ministers, thereafter, met to consider the recommendations contained in the above Resolution with regard to rural litigation, arrears of cases in administrative tribunals and alternative dispute resolution. The implementation of December 1993 resolution and recommendations made by the Working Groups were reviewed by the

Law Ministers at their plenary meeting held in Calcutta in November, 1994. A copy of the Resolution adopted at the meeting is annexed. [*See* Appendix 172 (Annexure 32)]

The Administration of Justice has been made a Plan item with a view to remove infrastructural bottlenecks coming in the way of expeditious disposal of cases.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

**Elevation of powers of MRTPC**

1446. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how for the powers of Malpractices and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission have been elevated regarding pre-entry scrutiny of mergers and amalgamations of corporate equities;

(b) whether Government have considered mandatory clearance; and

(c) whether Government intends to accept the recommendations of MRTPC, particularly in regard to Multinational Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) to (c) There have been no changes in the powers of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission after 1991 when the MRTP Act, 1969 was last amended. However, the Commission has recently made some suggestions for further nationalisation of the MRTP Act, 1969 and the Rules/Regulations made thereunder. These would be considered in consultation with concerned authorities.

**Electricity from non-conventional energy sources in Rajasthan**

1447. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have so far been taken to generate electricity from non-conventional energy sources| bio-gas etc. in Rajasthan;

(b) what amount was given by the Centre as well as from other foreign agencies for this purpose during the current financial year upto 31st October, 1994 as compared to the last two years, the details of the achievements in this regard, and

(c) what are the new targets/projects likely to be set up in Rajasthan during the Eighth Five Year Plan period to cope with increasing demand of electricity?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) In the State of Rajasthan, electricity from non-conventional energy sources is mainly generated from solar energy using solar photovoltaic systems. 5440 SPV street lighting systems, 222 solar lanterns, 107 community TVs, 33 SPV water pumping systems and 10 small village SPV power plants of 80 KWP have so far been installed.

Detailed project report for a proposed 30 MW solar thermal power plant has been prepared. Sites for utilising wind energy for power generation are being identified.

(b) During the current financial year, upto 31.10.1994, a sum of Rs. 4.50 lakhs have been released to the State of Rajasthan under the SPV programme. The amount released during 1992-93 and 1993-94 was Rs. 57.93 and Rs. 91.80 lakhs respectively.